



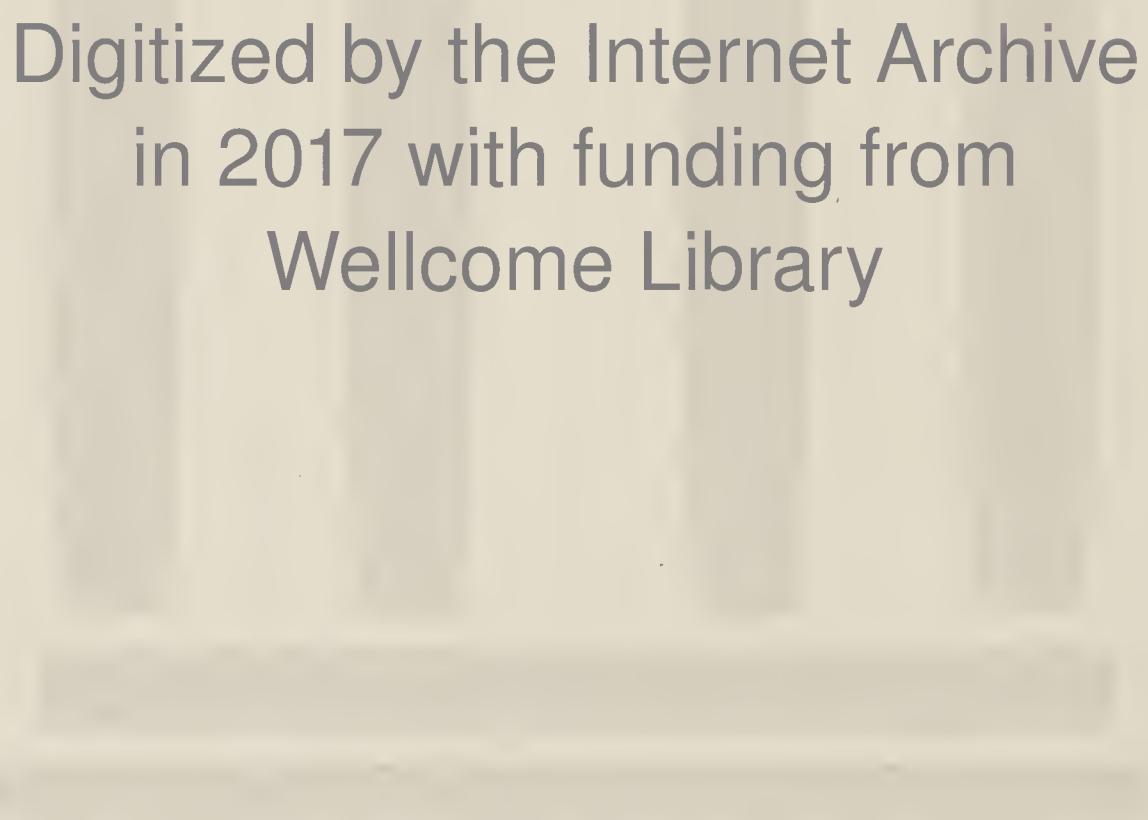
# Annual Report

OF THE  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**  
TOGETHER WITH THE REPORT OF THE  
**SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR**  
**for Year 1949**

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**C. E. JAMISON, B.A., M.B., D.P.H.**



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# Lichfield Rural District Council.

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## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH. 1949.

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Lichfield Rural District Council.*

Having been appointed Medical Officer of Health as from 1st April, 1949, I now have pleasure in presenting my report for the year 1949.

On scanning the vital statistics for the year, it will be noted that a disturbing feature is the increase in the infant mortality rate to 49.2 per 1,000 live births. It must be remembered, however, that, with a small population, a very small increase in the number of deaths may result in a disproportionately large increase in the rate. The birth rate, at 18.72 per 1,000 population, compares favourably with the figure for last year, and with the figure of 16.7 for England and Wales as a whole. The still birth rate, and the death rate, 10.1 per 1,000 population, as against 11.7 for England and Wales, also compare favourably with the country as a whole.

As in 1948, the incidence of infectious disease, other than tuberculosis, was low. There were again three cases of diphtheria, and, once again, all occurred in persons over 25 years of age. Two sporadic cases of food-poisoning occurred. This emphasises the need for the greatest possible vigilance regarding the standard of food hygiene, both in the home, and in all premises where food is either prepared or consumed. The incidence of tuberculosis, particularly pulmonary tuberculosis, remains high, and the present overcrowding in houses must be regarded as one of the main factors influencing the spread of this disease.

In conclusion, I should like to express my thanks to members of the Council, to my predecessor, Dr. R. E. Johnson, to other Officers of the Council, and to the staff of the Health Department, for their help and co-operation since I assumed office.

C. E. JAMISON,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## LICHFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

**CHAIRMAN** ... H. V. Smith, Esq., J.P.  
**VICE-CHAIRMAN** ... W. F. Hart, Esq., C.C.

and also

Mrs. C. Bailey, Mrs. A. E. Cresswell, Mrs. F. K. Kirby, Mrs. E. Colquhoun, and Messrs. R. W. N. Dawe, W. E. Ward, W. Goring, H. C. Ridout, C.C., T. C. Buckle, J. C. Lees, J. W. Ashley, W. Nevill, C.A., H. Deakin, G. E. Walker, W. J. Parr, R. R. Scarratt, W. L. Hemus, R. Garland, J.P., C.A., F. Harris, E. E. Foster, Rev. J. H. Evans, A. Heathcote, J. P. Morrison, J.P., G. E. Wakeman, E. Matthews, J. Brough, C. W. Howitt, P. H. Mercer, G. W. S. Clarke, J. Cliffe, J. B. Nichols, A. E. Legge, A. Done, J. A. J. Briant, A. S. Brown, K. Hargreaves, P. J. Daubner, F. N. Bower, E. M. Williams, G. P. Stubbs, W. A. Wannop, W. B. Deakin.

### Health Committee

<b>CHAIRMAN</b>	...	Mrs. C. Bailey
<b>VICE-CHAIRMAN</b>	...	H. C. Ridout, Esq.
H. V. Smith, Esq., J.P.		R. W. N. Dawe, Esq.
W. F. Hart, Esq., C.C.		W. B. Deakin, Esq.
J. W. Ashley, Esq.		R. Garland, Esq., J.P., C.A.
F. N. Bower, Esq.		A. Heathcote, Esq.
J. A. J. Briant, Esq.		E. Matthews, Esq.
J. Brough, Esq.		G. P. Stubbs, Esq.
T. C. Buckle, Esq.		G. E. Wakeman, Esq.
J. Cliffe, Esq.		G. E. Walker, Esq.
P. J. Daubner, Esq.		W. A. Wannop, Esq.

### Public Health Staff

#### Medical Officer of Health—

RONALD E. JOHNSON, M.B., Ch.B., (resigned 31st March)  
 C. E. JAMISON, B.A., M.B., D.P.H. (appointed 1st April)

**Senior Sanitary Inspector—**  
**GEORGE LEEDER, M.S.I.A.**

**Additional Sanitary Inspector—**  
**WILLIAM E. SHAW, M.S.I.A.**

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres) ... ... ... ... ... ... ...	83,715
Population (estimated) ... ... ... ... ... ...	34,740
Number of inhabited houses at 1/4/50 according to Rate Books	9,524
Rateable Value at 1/4/50... ... ... ... ...	£186,210
Net product of penny rate 31/3/50 ... ... ...	£733/11/8

Although 45 bungalows, 180 council houses and 10 private houses were completed in the District during the year, the waiting list for council houses increased from 1,176 at the beginning of the year to 1,378 at the end of the year. It is realised, of course, that a certain number of persons on the waiting list will also have registered with other housing authorities and may be rehoused by them. In spite of this, and although a good start in dealing with the problem has been made, it is obvious that much work still requires to be done to relieve overcrowding, and to replace the 467 houses in the District revealed by the recent Rural Housing Survey to be unfit and requiring demolition.

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

No action was necessary during the year, under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, to enforce the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of proper care and attention.

### VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births—				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	320	304	624
Illegitimate	...	...	...	19	7	26
				—	—	—
Total	...	...	...	339	311	650
Birth rate	...	...	18·72 per 1,000 population			
Still Births—				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	8	4	12
Illegitimate	...	...	...	0	0	0
				—	—	—
Total	...	...	...	8	4	12
Rate per 1,000 total births	...	18·47				
Rate per 1,000 population	...	·35				

					Male	Female	Total
Deaths	...	...	...	...	198	153	351
Death rate ...	...	10·1	per 1,000 population				
Deaths from Puerperal Causes :—							
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	1		
Death rate in infants under one year of age—							
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	49·68
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	38·46
All infants per 1,000 live births ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	49·22
Deaths from Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	...	59
Deaths from Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

The following table gives the birth rate, death rate and infant mortality rate for Lichfield Rural District, as compared with that for England and Wales, London, 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London), and 148 Smaller Towns :—

		BIRTHRATE LIVE	BIRTHRATE STILL	DEATH RATE	INFANT MORTALITY RATE
England and Wales	...	16.7	0.39	11.7	32
London	...	18.5	0.37	12.2	29
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	...	18.7	0.47	12.5	37
148 Smaller Towns	...	18.0	0.40	11.6	30
Lichfield R. D.	...	18.72	0.35	10.1	49.2

### VITAL STATISTICS OF DISTRICT FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS

Year	Estimated Population	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate
1945	32,710	19.04	10.0	48.0
1946	33,790	19.4	9.2	45.9
1947	34,400	21.5	9.97	43.47
1948	34,340	17.82	9.11	37.58
1949	34,740	18.72	10.1	49.2

**CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE RURAL DISTRICT OF  
LICHFIELD DURING THE YEAR 1949**

CAUSES OF DEATH	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	1	—	1
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	3	1	4
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—
Syphilitic diseases ...	—	—	—
Influenza ...	—	1	1
Measles ...	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-Encephalitis	1	—	1
Acute Inf. Encephalitis ...	—	—	—
Cancer ...	34	25	59
Diabetes ...	1	1	2
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions ...	16	27	43
Heart Diseases ...	41	46	87
Other Diseases of Circulatory System ...	6	5	11
Bronchitis ...	7	6	13
Pneumonia ...	10	9	19
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	5	—	5
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ...	3	—	3
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ...	3	3	6
Appendicitis ...	1	—	1
Other Digestive Diseases ...	7	3	10
Nephritis ...	4	2	6
Puerperal and Post-Abortion Sepsis ...	—	1	1
Other Maternal Causes ...	—	1	1
Premature Birth ...	6	1	7
Congenital Malformation, Birth Injury, etc.	7	4	11
Suicide ...	2	—	2
Road Traffic Accidents ...	7	1	8
Other violent causes ...	8	1	9
All other causes ...	25	15	40
<b>TOTALS ...</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>351</b>

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

### LABORATORY FACILITIES

During 1949, the Public Health and County Chemical Laboratories continued to provide a very useful service to the Health Department of the Council, and to hospitals and medical practitioners in the District.

Arrangements were made during the year for the establishment of a collecting-point for specimens at Rural Council House. Medical practitioners can leave specimens at this collecting-point at any time during the day or night. These specimens are then collected and sent to the laboratory at Stafford by 'bus, in order that they can be dealt with the same day.

Results of examinations carried out during 1949 were as follows :—  
**Swabs for Diphtheria Bacillus :**—

	Positive	Negative	Total
<b>Throat—</b>			
From Practitioners ...	... —	62	62
From Isolation Hospital	... 1	254	255
<b>Nose—</b>			
From Practitioners ...	... —	6	6
From Isolation Hospital	... 2	12	14
<b>Ear—</b>			
From Practitioners ....	... —	—	—
From Isolation Hospital	... —	1	1
<b>Sputa for Tuberclle Bacillus</b>	... 8	1	9

### **Samples of Water—**

	Normal	Abnormal	Total
Chemical Examination	... 2	10	12
Bacteriological Examination	1	3	4

### **Other Specimens—**

Cerebro-Spinal Fluid	... 1	—	1
Faeces	... ... 7	4	11
Pus	... ... 1	2	3
Blood	... ... 4	—	4
Swab from Teeth and Tooth-Socket	... ... —	1	1
Vaginal Swab	... ... 1	—	1
Peas	... ... 1	—	1
Meat	... ... 1	—	1
Sweet	... ... 1	—	1
Prunes	... ... 3	—	3
Sultanas	... ... 14	—	14
Rice Pudding	... ... 1	—	1

### AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

During the year, the ambulance service continued, under the control of Staffordshire County Council, as Local Health Authority. As previously, the service is operated from Lichfield.

## NURSING IN THE HOME, HEALTH VISITING AND DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY SERVICES.

These services are provided by Staffordshire County Council, as Local Health Authority, operating through the Lichfield Area Health Committee, on which the Council is represented.

The following Clinic facilities are provided :—

### INFANT WELFARE CLINICS

Place	Address	Day	Time
Alrewas .....	Oddfellows' Hall	Tuesdays fortnightly	2—5 p.m.
Armitage .....	The Parish Hall	Tuesdays fortnightly	1-30—5 p.m.
Chasetown ...	Social Institute	Wednesdays weekly	1-30—5 p.m.
Fazeley .....	Victoria Memorial Hall	Mondays weekly	1-30—5 p.m.
Whittington	Girls' Club	3rd Thursday	2—5 p.m.

### SCHOOL CLINIC

There is only one School Clinic in the District, at Chase Terrace Infants' School, where it is held weekly, on Tuesday mornings, between 9.30 a.m. and 12 noon.

### ANTE-NATAL CLINICS

Place	Address	Day	Time
Chasetown ...	Social Institute	Fridays fortnightly	9-30 a.m.—12-30 p.m.
Armitage .....	The Parish Hall	Tuesdays fortnightly	1-30—2 p.m.

### VENEREAL DISEASE

As in the previous year, facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease were available at the General Hospital, Birmingham, Burton-on-Trent General Infirmary, General Hospital, Stafford, Manor Hospital, Walsall, and at the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton.

## **HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION**

General hospital accommodation is provided at Victoria Hospital and St. Michael's Hospital in Lichfield, at Hammerwich Cottage Hospital, and at hospitals in Birmingham, Walsall, Wolverhampton, Burton and Stafford.

Maternity hospital accommodation is available at Victoria and St. Michael's Hospitals, and at hospitals in Birmingham, Walsall, etc.

The Wissage Isolation Hospital was closed down during the year, and infectious cases have now got to travel to Tamworth Isolation Hospital or to Little Bromwich Fever Hospital, Birmingham.

Facilities exist for the isolation and treatment of suspected or confirmed cases of smallpox at Witton Smallpox Hospital, Birmingham.

## **PREVENTION OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES**

### **DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION**

The value of diphtheria immunisation has again been amply proved during the year, when, for the second year in succession, no case occurred in an immunised child in this District. The three cases which did occur were all in adults, who had not been immunised.

The number of children in the District, under fifteen years of age, is estimated at 8,348. Of these, 4,534 had been immunised against diphtheria at the end of the year. Every effort is being made through family doctors, Infant Welfare Clinics, and the School Medical Service, to secure primary immunisation of all infants before they are one year, and re-immunisation at five years and ten years of age.

As in my last report, I have to record that it is regrettable that so many parents neglect to avail themselves of this valuable service.

### **POLIOMYELITIS**

As in 1948, only one case of Poliomyelitis occurred in the District during the year, contrasting with seven cases in 1947.

### **FOOD POISONING**

Two sporadic cases occurred in the District during the year.

### **INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND SCHOOLS**

During the year 268 children were notified as absent from school due to infectious diseases (actual and suspected), or contact with infectious disease.

It was not found necessary to close any school in the District because of an outbreak of infectious disease.

## NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the number of cases notified, other than Tuberculosis, and the number of deaths from these diseases during 1949.

### CIVILIANS

NATURE OF CASE	TOTAL 1948	TOTAL 1949	MALE	FEMALE	AGE DISTRIBUTION	DEATHS
Measles ...	147	322	153	169	0 — 1 — 11 1 — 5 — 159 5 — 10 — 141 10 — 15 — 5 15 — 25 — 1 Over 25 — 2 Age N.K. — 3	
Whooping Cough	83	51	22	29	0 — 1 — 2 1 — 5 — 29 5 — 10 — 16 10 — 15 — 2 Over 25 — 1	1
Pneumonia ...	20	20	11	9	0 — 5 — 3 5 — 15 — 3 15 — 45 — 6 45 — 65 — 3 Over 65 — 5	19
Scarlet Fever ...	35	47	27	20	1 — 5 — 11 5 — 10 — 26 10 — 15 — 5 15 — 25 — 2 Over 25 — 3	
Erysipelas ...	4	4	3	1	45 — 65 — 2 Over 65 — 2	
Diphtheria ...	3	3	—	3	Over 25 — 3	
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	—	—	—	1
Poliomyelitis ...	1	1	1	—	5 — 10 — 1	1
Dysentery ...	—	1	1	—	15 — 45 — 1	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	—	1	1	—	—	
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	—	1	1	—	15 — 45 — 1	
Food Poisoning	—	2	—	2	10 — 15 — 1 15 — 45 — 1	
Encephalitis ...	—	1	1	—	0 — 1 — 1	

### NON-CIVILIANS

Pneumonia ...	3	3	3	—	15 — 45 — 3
Food Poisoning	—	1	1	—	15 — 45 — 1

The following table shows the number of notifications of cases of infectious disease, per 1,000 civilian population, for the District, as compared with England and Wales, 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London), 148 Smaller Towns, and London Administrative County :—

DISEASE	ENGLAND AND WALES	126 C.B.'S. AND GREAT TOWNS INCLUDING LONDON	148 SMALLER TOWNS	LONDON ADMIN. COUNTY	LICHFIELD R.D.
Typhoid Fever ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid ...	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.00
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.03
Scarlet Fever ...	1.63	1.72	1.83	1.46	1.35
Whooping Cough ...	2.39	2.44	2.39	1.70	1.47
Diphtheria ...	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.07	0.09
Erysipelas ...	0.19	0.20	0.19	0.17	0.12
Smallpox ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles ...	8.95	8.91	9.18	8.54	9.27
Pneumonia ...	0.80	0.91	0.65	0.55	0.58
Poliomyelitis ...	0.13	0.13	0.12	0.18	0.03
Polio-Encephalitis ...	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.03
Food Poisoning ...	0.14	0.16	0.14	0.19	0.05

## TUBERCULOSIS

The following table gives particulars of the ages of the new cases notified, and deaths from this disease, during the year :—

AGE PERIOD	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15 years	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
15—20 years	1	4	—	2	—	—	—	—
20—25 years	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
25—35 years	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45 years	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
45—55 years	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55—65 years	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over 65 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ... ...	10	11	1	4	3	—	—	—

Patients suffering from the disease were admitted to Hospitals and Sanatoria, during the year, as follows :—

Staffordshire General Infirmary	...	...	1
Burton General Infirmary	...	...	1
Tamworth General Hospital	...	...	1
Children's Hospital, Birmingham	...	...	1
Birmingham General Hospital	...	...	1
Yardley Green Hospital, Birmingham	...	...	1
Prestwood Sanatorium	...	...	1
Brompton Hospital, London	...	...	1

Facilities for the diagnosis, treatment and supervision of tuberculous persons are provided by the Regional Hospital Board, at their Chest Clinics in Lichfield, Cannock and Shelfield.

A survey was carried out during the year in Lichfield by the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit controlled by the Regional Hospital Board. A considerable number of persons availed themselves of this opportunity of having their chests examined, to eliminate the possibility of pulmonary tuberculosis being present in an early stage.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERS

*(Prepared by J. G. Rimand, Esq., M.Inst.M. and Cy.E.,  
Engineer and Surveyor to the Council).*

Generally throughout the district all sewage works have shown a reasonably good effluent during the past year. These works have been well maintained and are being kept in condition by the workmen employed by you.

**Alrewas.**—The sewage disposal works at Alrewas is working satisfactorily but the flow from the village has continued to increase due to the erection of new houses until same is now working almost to capacity. During the year the sludge beds of these works have been extended and plans will be prepared shortly to cover the necessary extension to the works to deal with future development.

In the village of Fradley, a small pumping station and sewage disposal plant has been constructed to deal with the sewage from the Council houses erected there during the year. The general sewerage system of this village is most unsatisfactory and steps will have to be taken at an early date either to connect same to the Alrewas system or to provide a separate disposal works.

**Armitage and Longdon.**—The disposal works in this parish are inadequate. I am now engaged in the carrying out of the scheme recently approved by the Ministry of Health for the sewerage of this parish and the construction of a new works, and anticipate that by the end of the current year same will be in operation.

**Burntwood.**—The pumping station at Cannock Road is working satisfactorily, but the Peter's Lane, Edial, disposal works are in need of enlargement to deal with the large quantity of storm water received, together with improvements in the method of sludge disposal. This matter will have to be given serious attention as soon as conditions permit.

**Chasetown.**—The works at Chasetown are giving satisfactory service, and have sufficient reserve capacity to deal with the large development at Oakdene, to which sewers have been laid during the year.

**Clifton Campville.**—The sewerage system of this village is very inadequate. I have however, constructed a tank and filter bed as a temporary measure and this has resulted in a considerable improvement in the discharge from the local sewers.

**Colton.**—Conditions show little change in this parish, but some attention will be needed to the main sewer and the disposal works in the next few years.

**Curborough and Elmhurst.**—During the year a pumping station has been constructed together with a small modern disposal works near to the outfall of the sewer in the Elmhurst portion of the parish. This is working very satisfactorily and has enabled water closets to be installed in the village without creating a nuisance.

**Drayton Bassett.**—During the year a pumping station and disposal works have been constructed to deal with the sewage from the Council's housing estate. The general sewerage of the village however, is unsatisfactory and steps will have to be taken at an early date to deal with same.

**Edingale.**—During the year a small pumping station and disposal works have been constructed to deal with the Council's houses erected there during the year. This is working satisfactorily. The general sewerage system of the village however, is unsatisfactory, and steps will have to be taken at a fairly early date to put same in order.

**Fazeley.**—The sewage from Fazeley is dealt with by the Tamworth Sewerage Joint Committee, passing from the main sewer in the Watling Street, under the canal, to Tamworth. Considerable development has taken place at Mile Oak and the main sewer is inadequate. I prepared a scheme shortly before the war for providing a new sewer to relieve the flow, and the construction of a new disposal works, but this has had to be deferred owing to the war. Since the war, a sewage pumping station has been constructed at Brook End, Fazeley, to deal with sewage from the housing estate.

**Hammerwich.**—The Watling Street disposal works is working satisfactorily as is also the pumping station at Triangle.

**Hamstall Ridware.**—During the year a scheme has been in preparation for the sewerage of this village. It is hoped that this will be submitted to the Ministry of Health for consideration in order that the consent may be obtained for the carrying out of the work at an early date.

**Harlaston.**—These works are working as well as can be expected under the circumstances, but early attention will have to be given to alterations, to provide a more regular flow by the installation of an electric pump in place of the hand pump.

**Hopwas.**—These works, which were constructed shortly before the war, are working satisfactorily.

**Kings Bromley.**—A scheme has been prepared for the sewerage of this village and the construction of a small disposal works. It is hoped that same may be carried out at an early date as soon as the Ministry of Health lift the present ban on such work.

In the meantime, the tank constructed as a temporary measure at the sewer outfall is working satisfactorily.

**Longdon.**—I have been engaged during the year on the carrying out of the sewerage scheme for a considerable portion of the parish. This work is now practically completed, but the sewers cannot be used until the sewage disposal works, now in course of construction at Armitage, is completed.

**Mavesyn Ridware.**—During the year small pumping stations and sewage disposal plants have been constructed in Hill Ridware and Blithbury, in order to deal with the sewage from the Council houses. The general sewerage position of Hill Ridware, is however, unsatisfactory, and will have to be dealt with in the near future.

**Shenstone.**—The disposal works is now in a poor condition and a scheme is now in course of preparation which will provide for a modern works on a new site. The pumping station at Lynn Lane has had its pumps replaced during the year, and is working satisfactorily. The disposal works at Lynn are working reasonably satisfactory but the flow is too small to give really efficient working. The disposal works at Little Aston are giving a satisfactory effluent even though they are working practically to capacity. The question of the enlargement of these works is under consideration.

**Streethay.**—These works were re-constructed during the war in order to deal with flow from the W.A.A.F. camp. A modern bacteria bed and humus tanks have been provided, and these are working satisfactorily.

**Swinfen and Packington.**—During the year, the disposal works at Botany Bay, to deal with the Council housing estate, has been completed, and is working very satisfactorily.

**Wall.**—The disposal works for this village is working satisfactorily and most of the village is now connected to same, the sewerage scheme commenced shortly before the war having now been completed. The Muckley Corner end of the parish will, however, need attention in the future. I have prepared prosposals for same being connected to the exten-  
sion proposed for Hammerwich, in order that same will be dealt with at the Peter's Lane disposal works.

**Wigginton.**—Conditions in the portion of Wigginton village which is sewered, are quite good, the disposal being carried out by the Tamworth Sewerage Joint Committee.

**Whittington.**—The disposal works in this village is working satisfactorily. Consideration, however, would have to be given in the not so distant future for the modernising of same.

**Brindley Heath, Elford, Hints and Weeford.**—There is no change to report in the sewerage conditions existing in these parishes, which have been considered, along with the remainder of the District, by the Sub-Committee, whose report has been presented. This report makes certain recommendations as to the order of priority in which the works detailed in it shall be carried out and steps will be taken to implement the Committee's decision as soon as present conditions on the carrying out of sewage works are lifted.

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

*To the Chairman and Members of the Lichfield Rural District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Sanitary Administration of the District for 1949.

During the year the general body of legislation governing the control and administration of milk production and distribution was changed. As from 1st October, 1949, when the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act 1944 came into operation the functions and powers formerly held by local authorities in relation to milk production were transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Broadly speaking, the new legislation places milk production under the supervision of the Ministry and the distribution and sale of milk under the control of the local authority.

The Rural Housing Survey was completed during the year and will afford valuable data in any large scale reconditioning of property throughout the district. Full details of the results of the survey are given in the Report.

The Council's post-war schemes of water mains extensions have proceeded well during the year and there are now very few areas that are without a mains supply.

I wish to extend my thanks and appreciation to the Members of the Council, their Officers and my colleagues of the Health Department for the co-operation which I have received during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE LEEDER,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

July 25th, 1950.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

**Water Supplies.**—The parishes of Fazeley and Wigginton and part of the parish of Drayton Bassett are supplied by the Tamworth Joint Waterworks Board.

Part of the parish of Colton is supplied with water purchased by the Council from the Rugeley Urban District Council.

The parishes or parts thereof of Alrewas, Armitage, Brindley Heath, Burntwood, Clifton Campville, Colton, Curborough and Elmhurst, Drayton Bassett, Edingale, Elford, Farewell and Chorley, Fisherwick, Hammerwich, Hamstall Ridware, Harlaston, Hints, Kings Bromley, Longdon, Mavesyn Ridware, Shenstone, Streethay, Swinfen and Packington, Thorpe Constantine, Whittington, Weeford, and Wall, are supplied by the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company.

Due to the advantages, which the Council fully exploited, contained in legislation prior to 1944 affecting the laying of water mains in rural districts, this area is very well served in comparison with rural districts in general in the matter of piped water supplies. Every one of its twenty-eight parishes has a system of water mains supplying all but the smaller aggregations of houses.

I am glad to be able to record that considerable progress has been made during the year in the extension of water mains in the area under the provisions of the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944. Of the 11 schemes originally submitted to, and confirmed by, the Ministry of Health at an estimated cost of £14,468 the position at the end of the year under review was as follows :—

Completed 5. In hand 1. Recommended 2. In abeyance 3.

*Completed  
Scheme No.*

- 1 and 2. **Langley Common and Holly Bank Lane, Armitage.** Estimated cost £794. All properties en route connected.
3. **Alrewas (Orgreave and Pyford Brook).** Estimated cost £1,505. Except for two houses all properties en route connected.
4. **Fotherley, Shenstone.** Estimated cost £1,883. This was completed very late in the year and negotiations for connections to the main are now in progress.
5. **Hints.** This scheme at a cost of £2,900 was completed in 1947 and all properties are connected.

The Scheme in hand is :—

**Weeford Village and Dog Lane, Weeford.** The work of main laying has commenced and will be completed in the early months of next year. The estimated cost is £927.

No positive action in respect of the remaining five schemes had been taken up to the end of the year.

I am indebted to Mr. R. A. Robertson, B.Sc., M.Inst.C.E., Engineer-in-Chief, South Staffordshire Waterworks Company for the following information relative to the piped water supplies of the district :—

1. The water supply to the area and of its several parts has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity, during 1949.
2. The supply to the Lichfield Rural District, is derived from 11 pumping stations which supply not only the rural area but other districts as well. Regular samples are examined, both bacteriologically and chemically from all stations pumping to supply and where treatment is installed bacteriological examinations are also made of the raw waters.

Samples are taken at monthly intervals both from the service reservoirs and from the piped supply at various points in the Rural District. During 1949 eighteen samples from Gentleshaw Reservoir were examined and all were free from coliform bacteria, and out of a total of 108 samples taken from scattered points in the district 105 were free from all types of coliform bacteria and the remaining three each contained aerogenes in 50 ml. Owing to the number of supplying stations, the complexity of distribution, and the relatively large area involved, wide variations are found in the chemical composition of the waters supplied in the area—thus, the hardness of the water averaged during 1949 :—

117 parts per million at Chase Terrace.  
 185 parts per million at Hamstall Ridware.  
 216 parts per million at Little Aston.  
 214 parts per million at Thorpe Constantine.  
 276 parts per million at Fradley Aerodrome.

The December analyses for these five points are enclosed.

3. The waters are not liable to plumbo-solvent action and the 108 tap samples examined during 1949 were all free from any detectable traces of lead.
4. Chlorination is practised at most of the Pumping Stations, but this is largely precautionary. In cases of possible contamination following burst or damaged pipes, emptying of reservoirs, etc., emergency chlorination of the affected part is carried out. Special apparatus and staff are available for this purpose. The main, etc., is not brought back into use until the water has been examined and pronounced satisfactory.
5. (a) The number of dwelling houses supplied direct at 31st Dec., 1949, was 7,386, and the estimated population for these houses, based on an average of 3.75 persons per house, was 27,697.  
 (b) The number of houses supplied by means of standpipes during 1949 is not readily obtainable but at a recent census which was

undertaken for another purpose the number of houses supplied from standpipes was 121 or an estimated population of 454 persons served by this means based on an average of 3.75 persons per house. I regret that it is not possible to give this information separately in respect of each Parish without a fresh census for which I have not sufficient staff available for the time being. In view of the relatively small number of standpipes in use in your Council's area, I trust that the lack of this additional information will be of no serious consequence.

The analyses referred to in (2) above showed these five samples of water to be of satisfactory quality both chemically and bacteriologically.

## **PUBLIC CLEANSING**

**1st April, 1949—31st March, 1950**

The Council's Public Cleansing Service is carried out partly by direct labour and partly by contract. All parishes now receive a regular service of refuse removal.

The year under review brings to an end the system of contracting for the removal of house refuse. The Council have always borne in mind their obligations and desire to improve the general sanitation of the district and to this end, by use of the contract system, the Council's refuse disposal service has been gradually extended to all the 28 parishes in the district.

Now that the Council have decided to take over the whole of this service by direct labour, I feel it is necessary to place on record the appreciation of the Department for the co-operation which has always been given to us by the Council's Contractors in this work. There is no doubt they have given a useful service and have helped very considerably, in a manner that may perhaps be described as "pioneer" work, in the improvements carried out in this very important aspect of public health work.

The Council's Cesspool Emptying Service has again been operating to full capacity throughout the year.

**STATEMENT OF THE COST OF HOUSE REFUSE REMOVAL  
FOR TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 31st MARCH, 1950**

**DIRECT LABOUR**

PARISH	NO. OF HOUSES	EXPENDITURE	AVERAGE ANNUAL COST PER HOUSE
*Brindley Heath ...	235	£ 467 6 1	£ 1 19 9
Burntwood ...	2749	2,637 0 2	19 2
Curborough and Elmhurst ...	30	15 10 3	10 4
*Drayton Bassett ...	89	89 6 0	1 0 1
*Fazeley ...	895	859 17 11	19 3
*Hammerwich ...	712	721 4 4	1 0 3
Hints ...	102	64 19 11	12 9
Shenstone ...	1135	1,209 3 4	1 1 4
*Wall ...	103	117 16 0	1 2 10
*Wigginton ...	250	284 5 5	1 2 9
Total by Direct Labour ...	6300	6,466 9 5	1 0 6

\* Includes cost of Cleansing Pail Closets.

**CONTRACT**

Alrewas, Kings Bromley and Streethay ...	680	£ 540 0 0	15 10
Armitage-with-Handsacre ...	500	520 0 0	1 0 9
Clifton Campville ...	92	81 19 8	17 10
Colton ...	150	160 0 0	1 1 4
Edingale ...	80	71 3 4	17 9
Elford ...	95	84 13 9	17 10
Farewell and Chorley ...	60	100 0 0	1 13 4
Hamstall Ridware ...	54	65 0 0	1 4 1
Harlaston ...	70	62 3 3	17 9
Longdon ...	410	410 0 0	1 0 0
Mavesyn Ridware ...	100	155 0 0	1 11 0
Swinfen and Packington ...	30	30 0 0	1 0 0
Thorpe Constantine ...	30	30 0 0	1 0 0
Weeford ...	95	150 0 0	1 11 7
Whittington ...	270	170 0 0	12 7
Total by Contract ...	2716	2,630 0 0	19 4
Total by Direct Labour	6300	6,466 9 5	1 0 6
Cost of Supervision and Tip Attendance ...		1,331 18 2	
Total Cost per House ...	9016	10,428 7 7	1 3 1

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

As a result of inspections made, largely owing to complaints received from tenants, the following defects were remedied in dwelling houses in the district during the year. The continued difficulties arising from the shortage of essential building materials and shortage of labour in the building repair trade again precluded large scale inspections of properties being carried out. Due in large measure to these and other allied factors the departmental requirements have been limited to the carrying out of works of essential repair and improvement.

Defective or insufficient closet accommodation	...	...	...	...	78
Defective, insufficient or obstructed drainage	...	...	...	...	103
Defective, roofs, spouting, external brickwork, etc.	...	...	...	...	196
Insufficient or defective light or ventilation	...	...	...	...	3
Dampness	...	...	...	...	67
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	15
Offensive accumulations	...	...	...	...	9
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	2
Defective plaster, floors, and other internal defects	...	...	...	...	326
Defective ashbins	...	...	...	...	58
Defective yard paving	...	...	...	...	10
Vermin Infestation	...	...	...	...	15
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	5
In addition, nuisances were abated as follows :—					
Refuse Tips	...	...	...	...	4
River and Stream Pollution	...	...	...	...	2

## HOUSING

At December 31st, 1949, the progress made in the construction of new houses in the district was as follows :—

	Bungalows	Council Houses.	Private Houses.
Completed	191	407	73
Building in progress	—	138	56

By either local or national comparison standards the progress made in the provision of new housing accommodation during the year can be regarded as satisfactory but it is to be regretted that many retarding factors still preclude the Council from proceeding in this work with the speed they would wish to employ. It has again not proved possible to utilise any of these new houses in replacement of the many worn out properties in the area which are or should be, the subject of Demolition Orders, but the possibility of doing this has been seriously considered by the Council and it is hoped that next year an allocation of new houses will be made for this purpose. Over-crowding in the area has, however, been considerably alleviated during the year by the re-housing of many seriously overcrowded families.

## Rural Housing Survey

This survey, carried out on the recommendation of the Ministry of Health on the lines suggested in the Third Report of the Rural Housing Sub-Committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee, was completed during the year under review resulting in a total of 7,057 houses being inspected. These were classified as follows :—

Category.	Condition of Dwelling.	Total Houses.
1.	Satisfactory in all respects ... ... ...	3,042 or 43.1%
2.	Minor Defects ... ... ...	1,514 or 21.4%
3.	Requiring repairs, structural alteration or improvement ... ... ...	1,691 or 23.9%
4.	Reconditioning under Housing (Rural Workers) Acts ... ... ...	343 or 4.8%
5.	Unfit and requiring demolition ... ...	467 or 6.6%
<hr/>		<hr/>
Total ... ... ...		7,057
<hr/>		<hr/>

Some concern may be felt at the total of 467 houses classified as unfit and requiring demolition. In this connection it should be realised that this total included 64 temporary hutments in the Parish of Brindley Heath which are occupied by "squatters" and 56 houses also of a temporary type in the same parish which were constructed in the 1914-18 War as a military hospital and subsequently taken over for housing purposes by a local colliery company.

It was not feasible during the year to embark on any statutory action to secure the repair or improvement of the 1,691 houses in category 3, but the survey as a whole has disclosed information which will be of considerable value when conditions enable large scale reconditioning and demolition to be resumed.

## Squatters

The 64 families occupying hutments on the portion of the R.A.F. Camp, Brindley Heath, are still a source of considerable concern to the Council. Further transfer of families from the "A" Site have been made to the rather better equipped Communal Site but conditions are still far from satisfactory. There is, I am afraid, little possibility of an early solution to this vexed problem being arrived at.

## Temporary occupation of Condemned Houses

Eight of the nine houses which are the subject of Demolition Orders and are let under licence authorised by Ministry of Health Circular dated September, 1940, to persons rendered homeless as a result of enemy action were still occupied at the end of the year, repairs having been carried out to them from time to time to render them reasonably capable of continued occupation. In the remaining case, however, the Council secured the consent of the Ministry of Health to demolish the house on account of its deplorable condition. The tenant was re-housed by the Council.

## RAT INFESTATION ORDER, 1943

The departmental duties under the provisions of the above Order have been continued during the year.

There have been no major cases of infestation in any part of the district. Very largely the work has been confined to the back-yard type of infestation caused by fowl-pens and garden sheds affording harbourage for rats.

Test baiting of sewers was carried out as desired by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. This proved that the Council's sewers were free from infestation.

There have been 62 visits in the course of the year amounting to 294 hours of the rodent operator's employment. The amount received as a result of the small charge made to occupiers of private properties for this work totalled £9 9s. 0d.

## THE SHOPS ACTS, 1912-1924

In the latter part of the year under review the District Council accepted from the Staffordshire County Council full delegation of powers under the provisions of these Acts and the responsibility of administration was placed in the hands of the Sanitary Inspector's department.

Having had little time before the end of the year in which to assimilate the complex legislation that is involved there have been no visits or action to report.

It is hoped to bring the records of Shops up-to-date during the current year.

## SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

The policy, mentioned in my last report, whereby casualty animals in the rural district are slaughtered and inspected at one of the local slaughter-houses prior to being taken to the Ministry of Food distribution centre, has been continued throughout the year with good effect. As a result of this policy the weight of meat condemned again shows a considerable increase over last year. Full details of meat and other foods condemned are given in the following table :—

Article Inspected	Cause for Condemnation	Weight
308 tins Fruit, Vegetables, etc. ...	Unsound or unwholesome ...	616 lbs.
349 tins Condensed and Evaporated Milk	Unsound or unwholesome ...	260 lbs.
6 jars Marmalade and Jams ...	Unsound or unwholesome ...	11 lbs.
31 tins Meat and Fish ...	Unsound or unwholesome ...	29 lbs.
169 lbs. Wet Fish ...	Unsound or unwholesome ...	169 lbs.
84 lbs. Smoked Fish ...	Unsound or unwholesome ...	84 lbs.
384 lbs. Bacon and Ham ...	Unsound or unwholesome ...	384 lbs.
64 lbs. Sausage ...	Unsound or unwholesome ...	64 lbs.
250 lbs. Cheese ...	Unsound or unwholesome ...	250 lbs.

Article Inspected	Cause for Condemnation	Weight
16 Pies ... ... ...	Unsound or unwholesome	12 lbs.
2,464 Eggs ... ... ...	Unsound or unwholesome	308 lbs.
1,950 Ice-creams ... ... ...	Unsound or unwholesome	122 lbs.
14 lbs. Lentils ... ... ...	Unsound or unwholesome	14 lbs.
91 lbs. Miscellaneous Foodstuffs	Unsound or unwholesome	91 lbs.
20 Cow Carcases and all organs	Tuberculosis	8080 lbs.
82 Cows' Lungs ... ... ...	Tuberculosis	1011 lbs.
47 Cows' Heads ... ... ...	Tuberculosis	940 lbs.
21 Cows' Livers ... ... ...	Tuberculosis	252 lbs.
2 Cows' Spleens ... ... ...	Tuberculosis	6 lbs.
1 Cow's Heart ... ... ...	Tuberculosis	2 lbs.
3 Cows' Thick Skirts ... ... ...	Tuberculosis	9 lbs.
2 Pig Carcases and all organs ...	Tuberculosis	360 lbs.
Hipbone, Hind and Forequarter Beef	Tuberculosis	184 lbs.
1 Calf's Lungs and Pleural Strippings	Tuberculosis	8 lbs.
4 Cows' Kidneys ... ... ...	Tuberculosis	8 lbs.
5 Cow Carcases and all organs ...	Fevered	2080 lbs.
6 Sheep Carcases and all organs	Fevered	265 lbs.
1 Pig Carcase and all organs ...	Fevered	128 lbs.
3 Cow Carcases and all organs ...	Johnes Disease	1350 lbs.
5 lbs. Beef Trimmings ... ... ...	Johnes Disease	5 lbs.
3 Cow Carcases and all organs ...	Dropsical	1220 lbs.
1 Sheep Carcase and all organs ...	Dropsical	65 lbs.
Fore and Hindquarters Beef	Bruised	1883 lbs.
2 sides and Brisket of Beef	Bruised	500 lbs.
1 Pig Carcase ... ... ...	Bruised	120 lbs.
Cow's Long Shin ... ... ...	Bruised	32 lbs.
1 Bullock's Head ... ... ...	Bruised	18 lbs.
255 lbs. Beef Trimmings	Bruised	255 lbs.
60 lbs. Mutton ... ... ...	Bruised	60 lbs.
25 lbs. Pork ... ... ...	Bruised	25 lbs.
1 Cow's Kidneys ... ... ...	Bruised	2 lbs.
1 Cow Carcase and all organs ...	Abscesses	550 lbs.
4 Cows' Livers ... ... ...	Abscesses	47 lbs.
Part Cow Forequarter and Back Loin	Abscesses	100 lbs.
1 Cow's Lungs ... ... ...	Abscesses	13 lbs.
Hindquarters of Beef	Inflammation	594 lbs.
1 Cow's Lungs ... ... ...	Inflammation	12 lbs.
2 Cows' Livers ... ... ...	Inflammation	24 lbs.
1 Cow's Head ... ... ...	Inflammation	20 lbs.
2 Cows' Spleens ... ... ...	Inflammation	6 lbs.
6 Cows' Tripes ... ... ...	Inflammation	120 lbs.
1 Cow's Stomach ... ... ...	Inflammation	20 lbs.
1 Cow's Heart ... ... ...	Inflammation	3 lbs.
Ribs of Beef and Beef Trimmings	Inflammation	11 lbs.
Mutton Trimmings ... ... ...	Inflammation	3 lbs.
1 Sheep Carcase and all organs ...	Angioma	70 lbs.
21 Cows' Livers ... ... ...	Angioma	250 lbs.
16 Cows' Livers	Cirrhosis	183 lbs.
Sheep's Pluck ... ... ...	Cirrhosis	5 lbs.
7 Cows' Lungs ... ... ...	Cystic	87 lbs.
5 Cows' Kidneys	Cystic	9 lbs.
2 Cows' Livers ... ... ...	Cystic	24 lbs.
1 Sheep's Lungs ... ... ...	Cystic	6 lbs.
2 Sheeps' Kidneys	Cystic	1 lb.
21 Cows' Kidneys	Nephritis	43 lbs.
1 Cow's Lungs ... ... ...	Melanosis	12 lbs.
11 Cows' Lungs	Congested	138 lbs.
3 Cows' Livers ... ... ...	Congested	35 lbs.
1 Pig's Lungs ... ... ...	Congested	6 lbs.
1 Sheep's Pluck	Congested	7 lbs.
2 Cows' Livers ... ... ...	Necrosis	23 lbs.
6 Cows' Livers ... ... ...	Fatty	72 lbs.
3 Sheeps' Livers ... ... ...	Fatty	13 lbs.

Article Inspected		Cause for Condemnation		Weight
1 Cow's Kidneys	...	Fatty	...	2 lbs.
1 Cow's Lungs	...	Stale	...	13 lbs.
1 Cow's Head	...	Stale	...	20 lbs.
1 Cow's Skirt	...	Stale	...	3 lbs.
2 Cows' Heads	...	Actinomycosis	...	40 lbs.
2 Cows' Heads	...	Quinsies	...	40 lbs.
1 Cow's Liver	...	Haematoma	...	12 lbs.
1 Cow's Lungs	...	Pleurisy	...	12 lbs.
6 Cow's Lungs	...	Pneumonia	...	80 lbs.
Calf's Race	...	Pneumonia	...	12 lbs.
4 Cow's Lungs	...	Emphysema	...	52 lbs.
Bullock Carcase and all organs	...	Peritonitis	...	550 lbs.
Cow's flank	...	Peritonitis	...	30 lbs.
Cow's Stomach	...	Peritonitis	...	25 lbs.
Cow's Udder and Flanks	...	Mastitis	...	62 lbs.
2 Cow Carcasses and organs	...	Acorn Poisoning	...	500 lbs.
1 Pig Carcase and organs	...	Swine Erysipelas	...	150 lbs.
Hindquarter Beef	...	Wasting	...	100 lbs.
1 Cow's Liver	...	Multiple Growths	...	12 lbs.
1 Cow's Spleen	...	Contaminated	...	3 lbs.
<b>TOTAL</b>			...	<u>25,507 lbs.</u>

The following table of carcases inspected and condemned is given in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health :—

		CATTLE EXCLUDING COWS	COWS	CALVES	SHEEP AND LAMBS	PIGS
Number killed	...	12	260	4	32	120
Number inspected	...	8	234	4	25	45
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis</b>						
Whole carcases condemned	...	1	14	—	8	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	...	—	58	1	8	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	...	12.5	10.7	25.0	64.0	13.3
<b>Tuberculosis only</b>						
Whole carcases condemned	...	—	20	—	—	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	...	—	130	1	—	6
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	...	—	64.1	25.0	—	17.8



Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health  
LICHFIELD, in the COUNTY OF STAFFORDSHIRE,  
Workshop Act, 1901, and the Factories Act

1.—INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES

Premises.	..	..	..
<b>Factories</b> with mechanical power .. .. ..			
<b>Factories</b> without mechanical power .. .. ..			
<b>Other Premises</b> under the Act (including works of building and ing construction but not including outworkers' premises)			
TOTAL .. .. ..			

2.—DEFECTS

Particulars.	..	..	..
Want of cleanliness .. .. ..			
Overcrowding .. .. ..			
Unreasonable temperature .. .. ..			
Inadequate ventilation .. .. ..			
Ineffective drainage of floors .. .. ..			
Sanitary Conveniences { insufficient .. .. .. unsuitable or defective .. .. .. not separate for sexes .. .. ..			
No Certificate as to Means of Escape in Case of Fire .. .. ..			
Emission of Fumes .. .. ..			
TOTAL .. .. ..			

the year 1949, for the RURAL DISTRICT OF  
RD, on the administration of the Factory and  
337.

## OFF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.

Number of		
Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
.. 6	4	...
.. 2	...	...
.. ...	...	...
.. 8	4	...

## FOUND.

Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted.
Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
.. 1	1	...	...
.. ...	...	...	...
.. ...	...	...	...
.. ...	...	...	...
.. ...	...	...	...
.. ...	...	...	...
.. 2	2	...	...
.. ...	...	...	...
.. 1	1	...	...
.. ...	...	...	...
.. 4	4	...	...

C. E. JAMISON, Medical Officer of Health.





